IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Previously presented)   A method for establishing a call, comprising:
receiving a signaling message from a network;

    selecting a dial string to use based on the signaling message;

    comparing the dial string with match patterns;

    identifying one of the match patterns matching the dial string; and

    providing dial plan configuration information corresponding with the identified matching match patterns.

2.   (Previously presented)   A method according to claim 1 further comprising identifying a host destination for communicating with a call destination.

3.   (Previously presented)   A method according to claim 2 further comprising identifying a session protocol indicating how to communicate with the host destination.

4.   (Previously presented)   A method according to claim 1 further comprising determining how to manipulate the dial string to construct an output dial string.

5.   (Previously presented)   A method according to claim 1 further comprising identifying a mapping field in the configuration information that specifies any one of multiple schemes for mapping to different call destinations with different session targets.

6.   (Previously presented)   A method according to claim 5 including using the mapping field for at least one of:

    a local mapping type for handling calls between endpoints on a common router;

an IP mapping type for mapping the dial string to an Internet Protocol (IP) address and associated port;

a DNS mapping type for specifying the call destination as an IP host as registered with a Domain Name System;

a dial string mapping type for recursively invoking new dial strings obtained by string substitution on the received dial string; and

a loopback mapping type for specifying loopback testing at different audio signal processing levels at the destination.

7.   (Previously presented)   A method according to claim 1 including generating an output dial string by matching regular expressions in the match patterns with the dial string and identifying one of the match patterns providing a longest regular expression match.

8.   (Previously presented)   A method according to claim 7 including prepending or appending additional numbers to the dial string according to the identified one of the match patterns.

9.   (Previously presented)   A call processing system, comprising:
an interface receiving a signaling message;
memory storing call configuration entries having associated call configuration information; and
a processing element to determine an input dial string according to the signaling message received from the interface and to identify a match pattern for one of the call configuration entries matching the input dial string and to output a dial scheme according to the call configuration information for the identified configuration entry.

10.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 9 wherein the processing element derives the input dial string from a telephony interface or Internet Protocol (IP) interface and outputs an output dial string according to the dial scheme.

11.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 10 wherein the input dial string is based on the signaling message derived from individual digits output from a phone connected to the telephony interface.

12.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 10 wherein the input dial string is based on the signaling message derived from IP packets sent over an IP network connected to the IP interface.

13.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 9 wherein the processing element is located in a gateway.

14.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 9 wherein the call configuration information provides a session protocol for a call destination.

15.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 9 wherein the call configuration information provides a session target to allow specification of different types of destinations and a type specific syntax for the destinations to use as specified in the session target.

16.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 15 wherein the session target comprises a mapping string that indicates how the processing element should construct the output dial scheme.

17.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 9 wherein the call configuration information provides different levels of loopback testing.

18.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 9 wherein the configuration information identifies at least one of a quality of service request for calls to a destination and a quality of service specification for accepting calls from the destination.

19.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 9 wherein the call configuration identifies security information to control call acceptance.

20.   (Previously presented)   A system according to claim 9 wherein the configuration parameters include a Domain Name Service (DNS) session target field to identify a DNS session.

21.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a signaling message from a network;

means for ~~selecting~~-identifying a dial string to use based on the signaling message;

means for comparing the dial string with match patterns;

means for identifying one of the match patterns matching the dial string; and

~~generating~~-means for providing dial plan configuration information corresponding with the identified matching match patterns.

22.   (Previously presented)   The apparatus of claim 21 further comprising means for identifying a host destination for communicating with a call destination.

23.   (Previously presented)   The apparatus of claim 21 further comprising means for identifying a mapping field in the configuration information that specifies any one of multiple schemes for mapping to different call destinations with different session targets.

24.   (Previously presented)   The apparatus of claim 23 including means for using the mapping field for at least one of:

a local mapping type for handling calls between endpoints on a common router;

an IP mapping type for mapping the dial string to an Internet Protocol (IP) address and associated port;

a DNS mapping type for specifying the call destination as an IP host as registered with a Domain Name System;

a dial string mapping type for recursively invoking new dial strings obtained by string substitution on the received dial string; and

a loopback mapping type for specifying loopback testing at different audio signal processing levels at the destination.

25. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-accessible medium having associated data that, when accessed, results in the following:

receiving a signaling message from a network;

~~selecting~~ identifying a dial string to use based on the signaling message;

comparing the dial string with match patterns;

identifying one of the match patterns matching the dial string; and

generating ~~providing~~ dial plan configuration information corresponding with the identified matching match patterns.

26. (Previously presented) The machine-accessible medium according to claim 25 including identifying a host destination for communicating with a call destination.

27. (Previously presented) The machine-accessible medium according to claim 25 including identifying a mapping field in the configuration information that specifies any one of multiple schemes for mapping to different call destinations with different session targets.

28. (Previously presented) The machine-accessible medium according to claim 27 including using the mapping field for:

a local mapping type for handling calls between endpoints on a common router;

an IP mapping type for mapping the dial string to an Internet Protocol (IP) address and associated port;

a DNS mapping type for specifying the call destination as an IP host as registered with a Domain Name System;

a dial string mapping type for recursively invoking new dial strings obtained by string substitution on the received dial string; and

a loopback mapping type for specifying loopback testing at different audio signal processing levels at the destination.